

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS MPOL, NATO

SUBJ: ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES FOR SPRING DEFENSE REVIEW

REF: A. USNATO 5593 DTG 141940Z OCT 75

B. STATE 245422 DTG 152342Z OCT 75

SUMMARY: ASYG HUMPHREYS CHAIRED INFORMAL MEETING OF "KEY" EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP MEMBERS ON OCT 16 TO DISCUSS US PROPOSAL FOR EXPANDED, REGIONALLY-ORIENTED SPRING REVIEW PROCEDURES. REPS SUPPORTED MAJOR THRUST OF US PROPOSAL. INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS) WILL DRAW FROM US PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION FOR PRESENTATION TO EWG IN 2-3 WEEKS. END SUMMARY.

1. ON OCT 16, ASYG HUMPHREYS CHAIRED MEETING OF REPS FROM FRG (BGEN SCHUNEMANN), UK (PETERS), BELGIUM (TAYMENS), US (BGEN SEIGLE), SHAPE (COL ROBINSON-UK) AND INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF (COMMODORE GELUYCKENS-BELGIUM) FOR AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION CONFIDENTIAL

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OF THE US PROPOSAL FOR EXPANDED, REGIONALLY-ORIENTED SPRING REVIEW PROCEDURES (REF A). REPRESENTATIVES FROM NORWAY (LEINE) AND FROM DEFENSE SUPPORT DIVISION WERE INVITED BUT UNABLE TO ATTEND. AT BEGINNING OF MEETING, HUMPHREYS CIRCULATED MEMO

WHICH HE SAID SUMMARIZED HIS VIEWS AND ASKED FOR COMMENTS.

TEXT OF HUMPHREYS' MEMO FOLLOWS. BEGIN TEXT.

ALLIANCE COOPERATION - A REVIEW PROCEDURE ?

THE UNITED STATES PROPOSAL

THE UNITED STATES HAS PROPOSED EXPANDED, REGIONALLY ASSOCIATED SPRING REVIEW PROCEDURES TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION "....OF COOPERATION AND COMPATIBILITY AMONG ALLIED DEFENCES AND PROVIDE BETTER BALANCE BETWEEN SUPPORTING PROGRAMMES AND FORCE CAPABILITIES".

ONE SUGGESTION IS THAT PROPOSALS FOR SUCH COOPERATION ETC., SHOULD BE FED "THROUGH THE EXISTING CYCLE FOR DEVELOPING FORCE GOALS".

#### THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FORCE GOALS

THE MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS' FORCE PROPOSALS EXAMINED IN THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE IN SPRING 1974 INCLUDED "MULTILATERAL" AS WELL AS "NATIONAL" PROPOSALS: I.E. MEASURES WHICH REQUIRED ACTION BY NATIONS ACTING IN CONCERT AS WELL AS BY INDIVIDUAL NATIONS ACTING ALONE. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PROPOSALS SHORTLY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE WILL ALSO INCLUDE "MULTILATERAL" PROPOSALS.

IN 1974 THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FOUND SOME DIFFICULTY IN HANDLING MULTILATERAL PROPOSALS, BECAUSE INTER ALIA THERE ARE NO ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES FOR SUBSEQUENT REVIEW (SEE BELOW). MOREOVER THE CURRENT SYSTEM DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR THE EXAMINATION OF "MULTILATERAL" PROPOSALS WHICH OWE THEIR ORIGIN TO SUCH BODIES AS THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, MAS, CNAD, ETC., EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY ARE COVERED BY THE MNCS.

IF MULTILATERAL PROPOSALS ARE NOW TO BE CONSIDERED THERE WOULD BE ADVANTAGE IN FEEDING THEM THROUGH THE SAME PROCESS AS THE NATIONAL PROPOSALS SINCE THEY WILL BE COMPETING FOR NATIONAL RESOURCES IN THE SAME WAY; THUS NATIONS WILL REGARD THEM IN THE SAME CONTEXT WHEN DECIDING TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THEM AS AGREED FORCE GOALS.

A PILOT PROJECT WITH THE EXISTING PROCEDURES AND PROPOSALS COULD BE HELD IN SPRING 1976. IF THIS OPPORTUNITY IS MISSED WE SHALL HAVE TO ADOPT AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH OR WAIT UNTIL 1978.

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#### REVIEW OF FORCE GOALS

THERE ARE SEVERAL POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR A SUBSEQUENT REVIEW OF NATIONAL PLANS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF "MULTILATERAL" FORCE GOALS.

(A) INCLUSION IN THE NORMAL NATO DEFENCE REVIEW EXAMINATIONS ALONGSIDE COUNTRY PLANS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL FORCE GOALS, IN THE AUTUMN OF EACH YEAR, (I.E. IN 1976 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS).

(B) A SPECIAL MULTILATERAL REVIEW, OR A SERIES OF REGIONAL REVIEWS OF MULTINATIONAL FORCE GOALS HELD IN THE SPRING OF EVERY OTHER YEAR IN THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE YEAR (I.E. STARTING IN 1977).

(C) REVIEW IN THE APPROPRIATE SPECIALIST COMMITTEES

(INFRASTRUCTURE, CNAD, NJEWG, ETC.).

(D) A COMBINATION OF TWO OR MORE OF THE ABOVE.

MUCH WILL DEPEND ON THE NATURE AND TIMING OF THE MULTILATERAL PROPOSALS WHICH ARE EVENTUALLY ACCEPTED AS FORCE GOALS.

CONSIDERATION CAN BE GIVEN TO THIS DURING THE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF 1976.

#### THE REGIONAL APPROACH

SOME FORMS OF MULTILATERAL ACTIVITY LEND THEMSELVES CLEARLY TO A REGIONAL APPROACH, RECEPTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR REINFORCEMENT FOR EXAMPLE. FOR OTHERS A PURELY REGIONAL APPROACH MAY BE INHIBITING. MOST OF THE MAJOR CURRENT COOPERATIVE PROJECTS IN THE EQUIPMENT FIELD ARE NOT REGIONALLY ORIENTATED.

THERE ARE ALSO PRACTICAL ISSUES, SUCH AS THE VENUE FOR MEETINGS WHICH NEED TO BE CONSIDERED.

#### FURTHER AHEAD

IF BOTH THE ESTABLISHMENT AND REVIEW OF FORCE GOALS PROVES A SUCCESS DURING THE 1976 CYCLE, A MORE SOPHISTICATED PROCESS, DRAWING PERHAPS ON OTHER ASSOCIATED CURRENT STUDIES, COULD BE INTRODUCED IN 1978. END TEXT.

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2. NO ONE DISPUTED POINTS IN HUMPHREYS' MEMO. FRG AND IMS REPS EMPHASIZED NEED FOR METHODS TO FEED PROPOSALS HIGHLIGHTED DURING REGIONAL MEETINGS INTO THE EXISTING FORCE PLANNING CYCLE. SHAPE REP SAID THAT MANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR "MULTILATERAL"

MEASURES TO IMPROVE ALLIANCE DEFENSES CURRENTLY EXISTED IN VARIOUS STUDIES, BUT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS REQUIRED "MORE PRECISE DEFINITION" FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION ACTION AND FOLLOW-UP REVIEW. HE SAID THAT PROPOSED REGIONAL MEETINGS WOULD FACILITATE THIS REFINEMENT AND OFFERED, FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY, SEVERAL "ILLUSTRATIVE REGIONAL COOPERATIVE FORCE PROPOSALS" BASED ON THE DRAFT SHAPE FLEXIBILITY STUDY OF THE CENTRAL REGION. AS REPS DISCUSSED EACH OF THE "ILLUSTRATIVE PROPOSALS", A CONSENSUS EMERGED THAT REGIONAL PROPOSALS SHOULD:

- A. EXPLICITLY IDENTIFY WHAT ACTIONS ARE DESIRED BY WHICH ALLY; AND
- B. EMPHASIZE, AT LEAST INITIALLY, FEASIBLE MEASURES WHICH ARE NOT EXPENSIVE AND WHICH CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING A RELATIVELY SHORT TIME FRAME (LESS THAN 2 YEARS).

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3. AFTER DISCUSSING THE SHAPE "ILLUSTRATIVE PROPOSALS," HUMPHREYS ASKED SHAPE REP WHETHER IT WAS TOO LATE FOR MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS (MNC'S) TO INCLUDE SOME ADDITIONAL "MULTILATERAL FORCE PROPOSALS" IN THE CURRENT CYCLE WHICH THEY ARE DEVELOPING FOR 1977-1982. SHAPE REP SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THEY COULD INCLUDE SOME AND WOULD CHECK FURTHER WITH MNC'S. HUMPHREYS ASKED WHETHER REPS HAD PREFERENCES ABOUT WHICH REGION MIGHT HOST A "PILOT" REGIONAL MEETING NEXT SPRING. REPS GENERALLY AGREED THAT AFNORTH AND/OR AFCENT WERE BEST PROSPECTS.

4. AT CONCLUSION OF MEETING, HUMPHREYS SAID HE BELIEVED IS NOW HAD SUFFICIENT BASIS TO DEVELOP A WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION FOR REVISED SPRING REVIEW PROCEDURES. HE SUGGESTED THAT IS DEVELOP SUCH A RECOMMENDATION WITHIN NEXT 2-3 WEEKS, CIRCULATE RECOMMENDATION TO ALL EWG REPS, AND THEN SCHEDULE FORMAL EWG MEETING TO CONSIDER IS RECOMMENDATION. REPS AGREED.

5. MISSION COMMENT: WE WELCOME IS WILLINGNESS TO TAKE LEAD IN PROMOTING EXPANDED, REGIONALLY ORIENTED SPRING REVIEW. ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT SURE OF HUMPHREYS' PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO SPRING REGIONAL MEETINGS, HE IS NOW FULLY AWARE OF SUPPORT AMONG MOST ALLIES AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES FOR MAJOR THRUST OF US PROPOSAL. HE IS ALSO BETTER SITUATED THAT WE TO DEVELOP DETAILED AND ACCEPTABLE PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING PROPOSAL. WE WILL WORK INFORMALLY WITH IS STAFF DURING DEVELOPMENT OF WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION FOR EWG CONSIDERATION. END COMMENT. STREATR

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